OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE EXECU-TIVE COMMITTEE.

Chairman Irby Makes a Big Speech in Favor of His Views, but the Committee Referred the Whole Matter to the State

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 7 .- When the Democratic State executive committee met tonight there was quite a gathering of visitors, composed of Columbians and many from outside of the city interested in the procedings of the committee. The Senate chamber was selected as the place of meeting in view of its commodiousness, but it subsequently proved to be entirely too large and to have too many places of observation had any one been inclined to eavesdrop. When the committee met the usual formality of the roll-call was temporarily suspended and Chair man Irby took the middle of the aisle and had at least one say before the doors were closed.

He spoke extemporaneously and said that he had called the committee together, as the representatives of the Democracy, for two reasons. As this was a Presidential campaign year it was necessary to make a good start. Under the Democratic constitution there is an ambiguity as to when the local clubs should be called together. In one place it seems to be provided that the club meetings should be held the first week in May, and in another section that time is provided for the county convention. This is a most important matter. He recommended that the committee fix a certain day for all clubs to meet and another day for the county convention. The party constitution provided that the State convention meet on the third Wednesday in May. Another reason for the call, and one that was of vital and great importance not only to the success of the Democratic party in the State, but in the nation, had to be considered. He said that he felt that if the members could appreciate the feeling he had for the success of the Democratic party and supremacy of the white people, they would pardon his trespassing on the time of the committee. The committee, not withstand ing any challenge that might have been made against it, is a true Democratic committee. It is the successor of the committee of 1876, and it is the only committee that had right to the name since 1890. It is entitled to all the legal rights of the committee that won the victory of '76. The first certain contingencies; and whereas the State Democratic executive com-Haskell, and then Col. Moore or Gen. this committee as their legal successors are here rather as Democrats than as bolters, or as deserters, and the responsibility is upon us as their successors. I assume my share of the responsibility and say that we have come to a crisis in the very existence of the party, and as chairman of the Democracy I dare speak out and warn you of the danger that threaters us. We have come to the time when there is a division in our ranks, and the issue must be fairly met. We came into control of the machinery under a directpledge that we would continue it as Democrats, and if we are ready to desert our party, the party of our fathers, then let us be men enough, and bold enough and honest enough to say so and go and redhot speech in favor of the Gray join any party of our choice, and not masquerade as Democrats. The people gave me the position as chairman of the Democracy and I claim to be a Democrat of Democrats, and that I have honestly been the trustee of the Conservatives in open fight and we have survived the shock of Independentism. Now we are met with perhaps more serious opposition. We are challenged by a distinguished Democrat. We are challenged by one who has been one of its greatest beneficiaries since the war. We are told in so many words, that if this State does not get what she wants in the National Convention her little eighteen men are going to say to the thousand dele-egates: "We are going to bolt." Eighteen men are going to say to this great country that this State will not candidate for any office, but as chairman of this committee and as a Demonominees for officers, and when they want us to be bound to the nominees others. Every voter in 1892 and 1894 of the national party to prepare for a bolt. What's sauce for the goose ought to be sauce for the gander. fight and stand by the result and work

As soon as chairman Irby had fin-Tompkins to call the roll and that demabsentees, those from Georgetown, Convention.

It was then that the unexpected hap pened. The newspaper men had been given to understand that they would not only be welcomed, but that they would be expected, but it seemed that as if another programme had been

mapped out. Mr. Evans moved that the commitsaid that it was very evident to all who had the interest of the Democratic binding and the committee had no party at heart that its enemies should not know all the secrets, and that if there were any divisions they should be healed tonight. Sheriff Braham

seconded the motion. Mr. Gadsden, of Charleston, opposed the motion, and said that the commitwhole people, and that the people plied: Before God and man I would should have a chance to be present and | not. see and hear all that was done. The sentatives were doing in their interests. There was no doubt that the newspagive an accurate account.

The secret session element, however. doors open were Messrs. Martin, Cunningham, Parrott, Gray, Irby, Jones, Keels, Jackson and Gadsden. Those for closing the doors were: Messrs. A. | tion. Y. Jones, Jordan, Mayfield, Sweeney,

man, Redfearn, Efird, Montgomery, Robinson, Bennett, A. C. Lyles, Blackwell, Glenn and Donaldson. the newspaper men got up and left

with the balance of the crowd. Then Mr. McSweeney tried to have the representatives of the press admitted, but that failed, and the committee went to work with blissful thoughts of its own security. After the press had been disposed of Mr. Evans thought it best to appoint doorkeepers. Mr. Lyles, of Fairfield, was allowed he privilege of the floor. It was de cided that the county clubs meet on Saturday, the 2d of May, and the county convention on the first Monday n May, and the State Convention on the third Monday in May.

Then the fight of the night began. Mr. Sligh, of Newberry, offered the following resolutions: Whereas, since this executive com-

mittee is acting under authority delegated to it by the Democratic party of South Carolina, and therefore possesses no original powers; be it

Resolved, That in the opinion of this executive committee it would be transcending its powers to undertake to decide issues and questions which belong appropriately to the Demogratic State Convention. But it is furthermore the opinion of this committee that it is unwise to discuss all such issues and questions since it would be an effort to forestall the action of the sovereignty of the people, and furthermore, that the only duty this executive committee can properly perform s to direct the reorganization of the ocal Democratic clubs and the holdng of county conventions and that of ate conventions.

Mr. Sligh took the position that the matter called to the attention of the committee by Chairman Irby could not be officially acted on, as it was not properly before the committee, which had no right to act. The committee was the servant of the people and could not pass on any qualification and had nothing to do with any personal controversy between two Senators.

Senator Irby said that the committee had ample power to act in the absence of a convention, and it was all wrong to talk about the committee being powerless.

Then Gen. Gray came to the front with the following resolution:

Whereas, an issue has been raised questioning the loyalty of the Democrucy of South Carolina to the national Democratic party, and whereas a suggestion has been made that delegates to the National Democratic Convention from this State should bolt the National Democratic Convention on Kennedy, and then Col. Hoyt, and on the part of the Democrats of South Carolina to sever its connection with the national Democracy, now be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that no person shall be eligible to membership in Democratic clubs who is not a qualified voter at primaries of the party as provided by the constitution of the party, and who will not pledge himself to support the nominees of the State and national Democracy.

Gen. Gray supported his resolution with an extended speech, in which he cited the Constitution for the authority for passing the resolution he proposed. He urged that the issue had to be niet, and should be met at once.

Senator Irby made another and a resolutions, and said that the committeemen were the watchmen on the committee was acting under powers of the last Convention, and if it could termined to run the dispensary system summoned and his life saved. true element. The Democracy has not act there was no need for a combeen threatened. We have met the mittee. He wanted to know if the committeemen would want to open the doors so that Republicans and Populists might come in and capture the clubs and send delegates to Chicago Do the members now allow Republicans to come in and vote in their pricept under a pledge to support the examine into the operation of those Mr. Persons stood favorably with the party, and if it stands for Democracy it should look to its interests alone.

stand this or that. I speak not as a election the committee was anxious enough to bind all who participated, but that when it came to a national crat. It is not honest for us to bind a election there was a desire on the part certain element of the State to the of some to avoid being placed under was made to go under a pledge, and there was no objection to it at that The time, and it was a very poor rule that proper thing to do is to go into the did not work well both ways. Was the party going backwards and to for a glorious victory of the Democ- abandon the whole principle of pledging, or was it to apply only when it did not hurt those who were making ished his talk he directed Secretary the rule? A bolt seemed to be proposed before there was any cause or exonstrated that there were only three cuse for it. If free silver was ever to be gotten he did not think it could Kershaw and Colleton. A telegram possibly be secured by a bolt. The was received from Mr. Kirkland, of only thing for the South to do was to Kershaw, in which he said that his po stand by the party through thick and sation, and he believed that of Kershaw thin. The national party has done was to abide the result of the National too much for this State for it to drift off at this time. He was very emphatic in his warnings to the committee that if it sanctioned a bolt trouble would be sure to result. It would be

the ruin of the Democratic party. Mr. Blackwell, of Williamsburg, made a strong argument against the Gray resolutions and said that if Cleveland was a Simon-pure Democrat then tee go into executive session, and he he was no Democrat at all. The Convention alone had any right to do any

business taking up such matters, Mr. Sligh and Senator Irby had a general and free discussion, during which Mr. Sligh asked him if he would bolt the Convention if a gold bug were nominated and he were sent under instructions to bolt or sometee was to discuss the interests of the thing like that, and Senator Irby re-

Mr. Gadsden, of Charleston, took people have as much at heart what up the fight for the Gray resolutions. was being done as anyone, and they were entitled to see what their reprebut little for the Conservative wing. which he represented, and that the national tie was about the only tie pers would get all they wanted about that was binding his people to the parthe meeting, and there was no use to ty. Now if it was intended to break have a garbled report given the papers that link it would not be long before when the reporters were present to another and a real Democratic organization would be started. He wanted to see the committee stand by the Decarried the day by a vote of 15 to 8. mocracy and he saw no better plan Those voting in favor of keeping the than to pass the Gray resolution. Sheriff Braham, of Clarendon, did

not think it well for the committee to forestall the action of the May Conven-Then it was that Mr. Efird came in

each Democratic club in his county to be held on the second day of May, 1896, for the purpose of organizing the clubs for ensuing campaign; of electing one executive committeeman to represent the club in the county executive committee for the ensuing two years, of electing one representative for each twenty five names or majority fraction thereof on the club roll at the first iast preceding primary elec-tion, to represent the club in the county convention to be held at the county seat on the first Monday in May, and he is further requested to call a meeting of the Democratic county convention to be held at the county seat on the first Monday in May, 1896, at 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of elect-

ing a county executive committee and State executive committeeman for he next ensuing two years, and of electing the number of representatives to which his county is entitled, to represent such county in the State Democratic Convention to be held at the State Capital on the third Wednesday in May, 1896. That the clubs and conventions in their actions hereunder will be governed and guided by the constitution of the Democratic par ty of South Carolina, adopted in State convention, at Columbia, S. C., Sep-

tember 19, 1894. Mr. Efird, Mr. Mayfield and Mr. Montgomery favored the resolutions as the best way out of the trouble and as neither side appeared to want to come to a direct vote the Efird compromise was accepted without a division and amid laughter. It was a unanimous vote.

No one forced a vote on either of the other resolutions and so few expressed themselves in open court that it would not be safe to say how the vote would have stood. After the peace and love resolutions had been adopted the committee adjourned, apparently in the best of humors and with cordial expressions, but apparently with a bit of a blade showing for the next fight. The committee members were paid off and went home to tell their people what they did .- News and Courier.

THE STATE DISPENSARY.

The Profit Feature to Be Eliminated in

At a recent meeting of the Board of Control of the State Dispensary rules were adopted defining the duties of the various officers and employees of the Dispensary, and these rules will be stringently enforced, and the Board will not view with leniency any infringement of them by any one from commissioner to porter. At its next meeting the State Board will appoint county boards of control in all the counties of the State, as the old boards cannot continue to serve under the will most likely be made members of

believe that they will be beneficial.
At the next meeting the Board will take up the question of the enforcement of the law by the county dispensers and will adopt rules for their government. The aim of the board will be to devise such rules as will result in an administration of the law as will make the most of its beneficial features and restrict the consumption of liquor as much as possible. The county dispensers can begin to prepare spirit as well, the Board will officially without a single loose screw. The

be attended to at the May meeting. Some attention was paid to the tourwas deferred until the next meeting in with the terms upon which they were

anybody.

In reference to the complaints of the whiskey drummers that they were not given a chance to go before the Board and present the merits of their goods, Mr. Douthit said that it was impossible for the Board to allow them to do so, for it was exceedingly busy with the work of organizing and getting an insight into the business which they must conduct and which they are determined to conduct successfully. In deciding on the purchases which were made yesterday the board was guided almost wholly by the requests of the county dispensers for shipments of liquors for those requests showed which liquors were most in favor with the people, and they had taken that as an index as to the comparative value of the whiskies.

He said he did not think it would be worth while for the drummers to return to be present at the meeting in May, for the purchases of liquor until next fall would be small owing to the fact that the sales fall off during the summer months. The Board, however, would be glad to have the various houses send in bids next month, accompanied with samples of the goods offered. For the present, however, the Board will be guided largely by the demand of the purchasing public

for the various kinds of liquors

Chairman Jones confirmed all that Mr. Douthit had said. He further remarked that he wanted it plainly understood that the Board of Control in its operation of the dispensary law would endeavor to emphasize the moral features of the law; the dispensary will not be run for profit—if profits are made, al! well and good, but profit will be an incident and not the object. No false economy will be practiced; the best liquors will be purchased and furnished the people as cheaply as possible; the board will not furnish mean, cheap liquor in order to make big profits and have the patrons of the dispensary abusing them. The people will be given the liquor they like and

given at reasonable prices. Mr. Knapp Expelled. London, April 9.—The Post will tomorrow publish a confirmation of the report that Rev. Geo. P. Knapp, one Badham, Watson, Traylor, McCowan, and offered the following resolution:
McSweeney, Derham, Elliott, Evans, W. D., Sligh, Stribling, Earle, Lowman be requested to call a meeting of place.

KILLED HIS SWEETHEART.

Emma Owen, one of the most beautiful and accomplished young ladies in Talbot and a member of a wealthy and dence at 9:40 o'clock Monday night. Dr. W. L. Ryder, a prominent dentist here, was the assassin and he made also an attempt to kill Hon. A. P. Persons, who was Miss Owen's guest at the time of the tragedy. Miss Owen, who was just 21 years old, lived with her parents at their beautiful country home, 10 miles from this place, and was a social favorite in all the towns of Georgia. She was a graduate of Wesleyan Female college and was noted for her beauty and excellence of

Dr. Ryder of Talbotton, had been paying marked attention to the young lady for several months. He stood well socially and his company was never regarded with disfavor, though the young lady showed no disposition to requite the love that he evidently denonstrated. She treated him pleasantly but as a friend. Dr. Ryder drove out to the Owen home to visit Miss Owen and brought her to Talbotton to spend the Easter evening with friends. She stopped at the residence of Mr. McCoy, a prominent citizen and a close friend of the family.

After supper, while Dr. Ryder wa

with the young lady in the parlor, Hon. A. P. Persons called. Dr. Ryder left the young people in the parlor aud went to church. He returned after services and for several minutes the trio chatted pleasantly, and Dr. Ryder was in apparently good humor. He soon said goodnight and left the residence. He went immediately to his office, changed his shees, and went crops. from there to his room in the Weston hotel. He was heard to leave the room in a few minutes. In 10 minutes from this time, at 9:40 o'clock, two gunshots in rapid succession rang out and the entire town was aroused and startled. In an instant a man was seen running from the McCoy residence with a doublebarrel shotgun in his hand, and the news of the tragedy was on every one's tongue.

When Ryder left his room in the Western hotel he carried the gun in his hand. He passed on the streets unobserved and stepped softly upon the porch of the M'Coy residence; entered the hall and made his way to the parlor door that was partly open at the time. Miss Owen, who was nearest the door, had just arisen from the chair new law unless reappointed. The and was laughing when the gun was members of the various county boards fired; she feil dead in the arms of her guest. Mr. Persons saw the man and the new boards, except those against the smoke from his gun but befere he whom substantiated complaints are could utter an exclamation another made. Changes will not be made ex- load of shot was fired at him, cept where the Board has reason to several of them hitting him in his face and chest.

Ryder threw the smoking gun in McCoy's front yard and ran to his office; he left quickly and was seen going at a rapid rate towards Person's pond. It was less than 10 minutes after the tragedy that the streets were beginning to fill with people and excitement was intense. A posse of citizens was immediately organized by Sheriff Richards. At 11 o'clock Ry der was found at Person's pond. He at once for these rules; if they do not had taken a large quantity of morobey them to the letter, and in the phine and had gashed his throat from ear to ear with his pocket knife in a decapitate them without the slightest desperate atempt to kill himself. He

The cause of the tragedy is attribut Board did not discuss the prices at ed to jealousy. It is thought that Rywhich liquors shall be sold in the der proposed marriage to Miss Owen county dispensaries; that matter will yesterday, while driving to the city and she refused. The presence of Mr. Persons at the McCoy residence last ist hotel and beer privileges, but action evening as a guest of the young lady is presumed to have infuriated his order to give the Board opportunity to rival to madness. It is known that nominees, whoever they may be? The committee is either responsible to the Democratic, Populist or Republican privileges. There was no complaint young lady. Hon. A. P. Persons, against the granting of those privileges, but there were some charges that those privileges have been abused by der, is one of the most prominent men some of those to whom they have in Georgia. He is a son of Hon. Henbeen granted. If the Board finds that ry Persons, an ex-member of congress, this is the case, it is likely that it and is himself a candidate for the conwill take away the privilege from the gressional nomination this year. He person so abusing it. This warning has been a member of the state senate should be sufficient to make those who and has been prominent in Georgia have these privileges comply strictly public life since his majority. His wounds are painful but not serious granted. The Board is thoroughly in Dr. W. L. Ryder is conducted with earnest and will not be trifled with by one of the most prominent families in Georgia. He has a brother practicing medicine in Gainesville and another a professor in the public shools at

Dr. Ryder is a young man not over 26 years of age; has a magnificent practice and until last night's tragedy was highly esteemed here. He is of pleasant address, educated and handsome and had an entre in the best homes in Georgia.

Another Advance Made.

The Keeley cure has been introduced Md. The good Sisters realize that in this morning. Hanchey had receive the Keeley cure is found the only hope ed anonymous letters threatening his for those addicted to the liquor and life, but paid no attention to them morphine habits, and have made a No clew to the perpetrators of the deed contract with the Keely Institute of has been found. Maryland by which the Keeley treat ment shall be administered at their hospital by regular physicians instructed by Dr. Keeley. This is another argu-ment proving that the Sisters of Charty occupy the front place in the care of the diseased and in the service of suffering humanity. The treatment was adopted four years ago by the United States government and is used at the National home. Proving so efficacious the treatment is now given at Fort Leavenworth Post, to the officers and enlisted men of the regular retain his seat. army. During the past two years the States of Maryland, Minnesota, Colo-rado, Louisiana, North Dakota, Wisconsin and others have by legislative enactments provided that indigent iquor and morphine habitues be given he treatment.

The Keeley Institute of South Caroina continues its good work at Columbia, and any information desired may be had by addressing that insti tute or drawer 27.

Murdered. WASHINGTON, April 7.—Wessley Hall, a colored hunchback, was found at his home here to-night with his head crushed and his ears split as if man had made a desperate effort to defend himself. Hall was about 40 years of age and the treasurer of a church, which leads to the belief that the probable motive of the crime was

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

A Young Man Shoots and Kills a Young Crop Season and Vegetation in General is

TALBOTTON, April 8.-Miss Sallie This bulletin covers the weather and crop conditions for the week ending with Saturday, April 4, and in its preparation were used reports from one or more correspondents in each

ring the past week favored the farmers in the preparation of lands for planing, but during the latter portion of he week were generally unfavorable for germination of seeds and growth of vegetation.

and Saturday), but fruit and vegeta-bles were apparently uninjured by it

The highest temperature reported was 92 degrees at Shaw's Forks, Aiken county, on March 31st. The lowest 30 degrees, at Reid, Greenville county, on the morning of April 3d. Minima temperature of 32 degrees were reported as far eastward as Orangeburg

The ground is very dry, for with the exception of February, when there was decided and general excess, there has been a deficiency in rainfal during each month since last September. The amount that fell during March, 1896, was about one-third the usual amount. This condition was favorable for plowing and preparation of lands for planting, so that now lands are practically all prepared for the usual spring

The rainfall during the past week came in one series of thunder showers during the evening and night of April 1st, and was quite general over the State. The rainfall was for the most part light, but at Greenville and Lit-tle Mountain the measurements were 1.39 and 1.38 inches respectively. The average amount of all places reported rainfall was 0.66 inches. In a few localities the rainfall was heavy enough to wash lands badly.

The sunshine averaged about 60 pe cent. of the possible, with the highest percentages in the northwestern portions of the State and the lowest in the central portion. There was a high wind, of short duration during the afternoon of April 1st, but with the exception of uprooting a few trees and blowing down some fences, it did very little damage.

eneral is backward, owing to the prevailing cold weather during the month of March. The germination of early planted seed was slow and such corn potatoes, etc., that were up were nip ed by the frost of Friday but not entirely destroyed. The dryness of the ground has also been against rapid germination or growth, nor were the rains of the week sufficient to remedy this adverse condition.

Corn planting has been pushed in the eastern half of the State and generally begun elsewhere. The ground is dry enough to permit the planting of bottom lands as well as uplands. Ground is quite generally prepared

eastern counties where considerable has been planted, part of which is of the sea island variety.
Wheat is looking well generally and

appeared The general condition of fall oats i good, and but two correspondents, both from the same county, report poor stands. Like all other vegetation

The truck farmers along the cost re-port early vegetables ready for shipment, but that generally the season is late; eighteen days late one corres

opinion among correspondents that peaches are only partially injured, if at all, and that apples, pears and other fruits generally were entirely nninured by the late and previous freezing weather. Gardens are for the most part very

The opening of the crop season can at this time be briefly summarized in this way. Farmers are well up with their work; fall sown crops look

JACKSONVILLE, April 9.—Special to The Times Union says: Last night about 7 o'clock Deputy Sheriff John W. Hanchey, near DeFuniak Springs, Fla., was assassinated while walk-ing in his yard with a lighted lamp. His sister started for assistance and

Elliott Loses-Stokes Wins, WASHINGTON, April 8.-House committee on elections No. 3, Mr. Call of Massachusetts chairman, today decid ed four contested election cases. The case of Murray against Elliott, from the First South Carolina district, was decided in favor of Murray, colored Republican, the contestant. In the case of Johnson vs. Stokes, from the Seventh South Carolina district, it is recommended that Mr. Stokes (Dem.)

GEN. Wheeler, Democrat, of Ala bama, has offered in the House a bill providing that so long as the gold standard is maintained in this country. the salaries of all officials, including Congressmen, but excepting United States Judges, shall be reduced to three-fourths the salaries as now provided by law.

The trustworthy cure for the Whiskey Optum and Tobacco Habits is administerby a razor. Everything around was ed at The Keeley Institute of South Carspattered with blood, and the disorder olina. For further information address of the room showed that the murdered The Keeley Institute, or Drawer 27,

INTELLIGENT PEOPLE

Do not feel flattered by the methods of those who seem to think they can bully them into buying. Most people know what they want a great deal better than the merchant knows. They know too what their means are and what to pay for their goods without extravagance. Knowing all these things perhaps they do not know the place where they can buy to the best advantage and would be glad of hint where to go. We can only say we do our best by all and invite buyers when below a few of our many reasonable of

Good tomatoes 2 pound cars, 63c dozan, Good tomatoes 3 pount cans, 75e dozen

Green corn at 6 1-4, 10 and 12 1-2c can. Green peas at 8, 10, 12 1-2 and 15c can. Peaches in cans at 8, 10, 12 1-2, 15, 17, 20

Potted ham and tongue at 5c can. Lard, compound, 50 pound cans, 6c lb. Lard, compound, 20 pound cans, \$1.25 Lard, compound, 10 pound cans, 75c can,

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Tollet soap from 25c dozen up. Matches 5 and 102 dozen, 50; and \$1.00 a

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We invite all close buyers to visit our long stress or water to its fire state ... All goods or fered of us amounting to over tendomers will be delivered free of charge lastde of the State. Our statt conseds of every ratee and quality you may desire in our different times. Write, us

for quotations. Very respectfully, "THE HUB."

OPPOSITE GRAND CENTRAL HOLES

COLUMBIA, S. C.

aristocratic family, was assassinated county of the State.

The general weather conditions du-The mean temperature for the State

was about 62, the normal for the same period is approximately 59. The first four days were extremely warm, which condition ended in general thunder showers during the evening and night of the first (Wednesday). and was followed by falling tempera ture, to the freezing point over the western portion of the State on Friday (3d). Light frost was general on the morning of the 3d and 4th (Friday

county on the morning of April 3.

The crop season and vegetation in

for cotton, but as yet little has actually been planted except in the south-

free from insects, except in Orangeburg county where Hessian flies have

oats are making slow growth.

pondent states. It appears to be the concensus of

backward. promising; but it is generally too cool and dry, the latter being the more se rious drawback.

Shot in the Dark. into the St. Agnes Hospital, Baltimore, lost her way, only reaching the town